

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-14 EA-12 EUR-12 NEA-11
OIC-02 AID-05 EB-08 ABF-01 OMB-01 TRSE-00 CIAE-00
INR-10 NSAE-00 L-03 SS-15 SP-02 NSCE-00 INRE-00
SSO-00 ICAE-00 H-02 /123 W

-----032827 232221Z /12

O 232122Z JUN 78

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1314

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 GENEVA 09633

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: UNDP, PORG

SUBJECT: UNDP GOVERNING COUNCIL: AGENDA ITEM 17(G) -
ROLE OF EXPERTS

1. UNDP SECRETARIAT AT COB 6/23 PROVIDED USDEL WITH TEXT
OF THEIR DRAFT DECISION ON AGENDA ITEM 17(G) - JIU
REPORT ON THE ROLE OF EXPERTS - WHICH WILL BE INTRODUCED
INTO THE BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE MONDAY MORNING.
TEXT FOLLOWS:

QUOTE: 1. TAKES NOTE WITH APPRECIATION THE REPORT ON
THE ROLE OF EXPERTS IN DEVELOPMENT CO-OPERATION PRE-
PARED BY THE JOINT INSPECTION UNIT, AS WELL AS THE
JOINT COMMENTS THEREON PROVIDED BY UNDP AND THE OTHER
ORGANIZATIONS OF THE UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT SYSTEM
AND THE BACKGROUND MATERIALS SUBMITTED BY UNDP;

2. REITERATES THE NEED FOR REDUCING THE COSTS OF
PROVIDING THE EXPERTISE REQUIRED BY THE DEVELOPING
COUNTRIES THROUGH REDUCTION IN THE COSTS OF EXPERT
SERVICES AND THE INCREASED USE OF OTHER COST-EFFECTIVE
METHODS OF MEETING THE NEED FOR EXPERTISE;

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3. REAFFIRMS THE IMPORTANCE OF CARRYING OUT THE TASK
OF FURNISHING THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES WITH THE
EXPERTISE THEY NEED FROM ABROAD IN SUCH A MANNER THAT
THE BASIC TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION PURPOSE OF PROMOTING
THE SELF-RELIANT CAPABILITIES OF THE PARTICIPATING
DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, WITH RESPECT TO THEIR TECHNOLOGI-

CAL, INSTITUTIONAL, PERSONNEL AND NATURAL RESOURCES,
IS PROPERLY SERVED;

4. ENDORSES THE PRINCIPLE UNDERLYING THE CONCEPT AND
PROPOSALS PUT FORWARD BY THE JOINT INSPECTION UNIT
IN REGARD TO GOVERNMENT MANAGEMENT AND IN THIS CONN-
NEXION, EMPHASIZES THE FOLOWING:

(A) A PROJECT ASSISTED BY THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM IS
ESSENTIALLY AN UNDERTAKING OF THE GOVERNMENT WHICH,
WHILE RETAINING THE BASIC RESPONSIBILITY FOR ITS INITIA-
TION, FORMULATION, IMPLEMENTATION AND FOLLOW-UP, SEEKS
THE CO-OPERATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS ORGANIZATIONS IN
THE PROCESS. THE OVERALL MANAGEMENT RESPONSIBILITY FOR
THE PROJECT RESTS WITH THE GOVERNMENT AND, IN THIS
SENSE, EVERY PROJECT RECEIVING THE TECHNICAL CO-OPERA-
TION OF THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM IS GOVERNMENT-MANAGED.
IT IS INCUMBENT ON THE ORGANIZATIONS OF THE UNITED
NATIONS SYSTEM TO RESPECT THIS PREROGATIVE AND TO ASSIST
THE GOVERNMENT BY EVERY MEANS POSSIBLE TO EXERCISE THIS
PREROGATIVE EFFECTIVELY, SUBJECT ONLY TO THE PROVISIONS
OF ANY AGREEMENT WHICH THE GOVERNMENT HAS ENTERED INTO
WITH THE ORGANIZATIONS WITH REGARD TO PROGRAMMES AND
PROJECTS;

(B) WITHIN THIS BROAD CONCEPT OF GOVERNMENT MANAGEMENT,
THE GOVERNMENT MAY CHOOSE TO EXECUTE THE PROJECT UNDER
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GOVERNMENT EXECUTION ARRANGEMENTS, THUS RETAINING FULL
RESPONSIBILITY FOR ALL ASPECTS OF PROJECT EXECUTION, OR
MAY UTILIZE THE TRADITIONAL EXECUTION ARRANGEMENTS;

5. REQUESTS THE ADMINISTRATOR TO TAKE THE FOLLOWING
ACTIONS IN CONSULTATION AND CO-OPERATION WITH THE
PARTICIPATING AND EXECUTING AGENCIES OF THE UNITED
NATIONS SYSTEM, AND IN THE LIGHT OF THE COMMENTS MADE
BY MEMBERS OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL DURING CONSIDERA-
TION OF THE SUBJECT ITEM:

(A) IMPLEMENT THOSE MEASURES CITED IN THE REPORT OF THE
JOINT INSPECTION UNIT WHICH HAVE BEEN INTRODUCED IN
PRACTICE ALREADY AND THOSE OTHER MEASURES WHICH HAVE
BEEN RECOGNIZED IN THE JOINT COMMENTS OF UNDP AND THE
OTHER UNITED NATIONS ORGANIZATIONS AS PRESENTING LITTLE
CONCEPTUAL OR PRACTICAL DIFFICULTY;

(B) EXAMINE THE PRACTICAL AND OTHER IMPLICATIONS OF THE
REST OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS CONTAINED IN THE REPORT OF
THE JOINT INSPECTION UNIT; AND IN THIS CONNEXION CARRY
OUT SUPPLEMENTARY STUDIES TO DEVELOP INFORMATION AND

PROPOSALS CONCERNING THOSE AREAS OR ISSUES WHICH WERE INCLUDED IN THE ORIGINAL MANDATE BUT HAVE NOT BEEN FULLY DEALT WITH IN THE REPORT OF THE JOINT INSPECTION UNIT, SUCH AS: DEMAND FOR AND SUPPLY OF EXPERTISE RELATIVE TO LEVELS OF COMPETENCE; SYSTEMS OF PAYMENT BASED ON LEVELS OF COMPETENCE; EXPERIENCE AND FEATURES OF DIRECT RECRUITMENT OF FOREIGN STAFF UNDERTAKEN BY SOME DEVELOPING COUNTRIES; AND ALTERNATIVE METHODS USED BY NON-UNITED NATIONS ORGANIZATIONS ENGAGED IN TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION FOR MEETING THE NEEDS FOR EXPERTISE, CONCEPTUAL APPROACHES AND OPERATIONAL MEASURES FOR

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ENHANCING SELF-RELIANCE AT THE PROGRAMME AND PROJECT LEVEL WITHIN THE OVERALL COUNTRY CONTEXT;

6. FURTHER REQUESTS THE ADMINISTRATOR TO REPORT TO THE GOVERNING COUNCIL, AT ITS TWENTY-SIXTH SESSION, ON THE RESULTS OF THE ACTIONS INDICATED ABOVE. UNQUOTE.

2. TEXT HAS BEGUN ROUNDS OF DONORS AND LEADING LDC'S, WHO, ACCORDING TO UNDP, SEEMS TO BE SUPPORTIVE. POSSIBLE EXCEPTION IS SWEDEN WHICH FEELS DRAFT INSUFFICIENTLY MOVES IN THE DIRECTION OF FOSTERING ACTUAL GOVERNMENT EXECUTION AND SELF-RELIANCE. BASIC PLOY, OTHER THAN TO REMAND JIU REPORT TO THE ADMINISTRATOR, IS TO HAVE GOVERNING COUNCIL ONCE AGAIN ACCEPT THE UNDERLYING PRINCIPLE OF GOVERNMENTS PREROGATIVE TO DETERMINE PROJECT PRIORITIES & HAVE A SAY IN HOW PROJECTS ARE MANAGED WITHOUT SPECIFICALLY PUSHING RESPONSIBILITY FOR PROJECT EXECUTION ON THEM. IF THIS DRAFT SUCCEEDS ESSENTIALLY UNCHANGED, GOVERNING

COUNCIL WILL HAVE BURIED RECOMMENDATIONS 1 AND 1 A-C
FOR GOVERNMENT EXECUTION CONTAINED DP/334 WHILE UNDP
PROCEEDS WITH IMPLEMENTING OR STUDYING THE REMAINDER.

3. DEL HAS HAD INSUFFICIENT TIME TO ANALYZE TEXT IN DETAIL.
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AT FIRST EXAMINATION LANGUAGE "ENDORSES THE PRINCIPLE
UNDERLYING THE CONCEPT AND PROPOSALS PUT FORWARD BY THE
JIU IN REGARD TO GOVERNMENT MANAGEMENT ..." WOULD SEEM
TO BE ACCEPTABLE, ALTHOUGH WE WILL SEEK TO ACHIEVE
SPECIFIC CHANGES IN THE TEXT SUCH AS INSERTING "RECALLS"
FOR "EMPHASIZES". IN PARAGRAPH 4(B) WE OPT TO REMOVE
"CHOOSE TO" WHICH SERVES TO WEAKEN GOVERNMENT DISCRETION.
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Message Attributes

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Review Release Event: n/a
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Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
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TAGS: PORG, UNDP
To: STATE
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